

St. Alphonsus Pastoral Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday September 6th, 2018

Present: Fr. Aaron Esch, Denna Flemming, Rose Edwards, Matthew Evrard, Barbara Bova, Richard Hart, Pat Kempen, Robert Lange, Mike Mellock, Pat Schulz, Debbie Sievert, Barbara Toll, Mary Sue Taft, Bill Wenninger, Tommy Hess

Not Present: Christine Arnold, Fr. Britto Suresh

- 1) **Opening Prayer** – Fr. Aaron
- 2) **Financial Council Report** – Review of 2017-2018 Budget. Budget was made by \$116
- 3) **Pastor's Remarks** – Fr. Aaron discussed the status of the church today mentioning challenges facing the church today including the main topic of decline in mass attendance and practicing Catholics. He also mentioned some reasons why these declines were happening. He concluded with a few points that may help us reach out to help try to prevent these declines.
- 4) **Small Group Discussions** – Small groups were then assigned to try to narrow focus for the goal of the Pastoral Council for the following year.
- 5) **Ballot for Pastoral Council Goal** – After small group discussions the following possible goals were presented, and ballots were cast.
 - a) Develop Resources
 - b) Parish Forum
 - c) Mass Attendance
 - d) Welcome New Parishioners
 - e) Social Media
 - f) Decision Points
 - g) Saints/Holiness
 - h) Follow Up with Young Adults

The Parish Forum was balloted as the primary goal of the Pastoral Council for this year.

- 6) **Closing Prayer** – Fr. Aaron

Respectfully submitted
Matthew Evrard(Secretary)